

Message Text

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47

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 IO-14 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 EB-11 DRC-01 /139 W

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R 041230Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5630

INFO AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

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BEIRUT PASS USINT BAGHDAD

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: MU IR PFOR

SUBJ: OMAN MONARCH SULTAN QABUS DURING OFFICIAL VISIT AGREES
WITH SHAH ON VITAL IMPORTANCE OF PERSIAN GULF SECURITY

SUMMARY: ARRIVAL OF OMAN MONARCH SULTAN QABUS FOR SIX-DAY VISIT
HERALDED BY NEWS MEDIA. DURING EXCHANGE OF SPEECHES SHAH STRESSED
VITAL IMPORTANCE OF PERSIAN GULF SECURITY, REAFFIRMED IRAN'S
WILLINGNESS, IF REQUESTED, HELP ANY STATE IN REGION AND NOTED
WELFARE AND JUSTICE WOULD CREATE ENVIRONMENT UNFAVORABLE TO
GROWTH OF SUBVERSION. QABUS THANKED IRAN FOR SENDING TROOPS TO
FIGHT AGAINST FOREIGN PAID SABOTEURS, CONFIRMED SHAH'S VIEWS ON
REGIONAL SECURITY AND PRAISED IRANIAN PROGRESS UNDER SHAH'S
LEADERSHIP. END SUMMARY.

1. WARM WELCOME EXTENDED SULTAN QABUS BIN SAID OF OMAN, WHO
ARRIVED TEHRAN MARCH 2 FOR SIX-DAY OFFICIAL VISIT, HIGHLIGHTED BY
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NEWS MEDIA. SHAH AND TOP GOI OFFICIALS MET QABUS AT MEHRABAD

AIRPORT AND ALL HONORS EXTENDED INCLUDING 21 GUN SALUTE.

2. EVENING OF ARRIVAL SHAH IN WELCOME SPEECH DURING BANQUET AT NIAVARAN PALACE HONORING QABUS, STATED, INTER ALIA, FOLLOWING POINTS:

A) EXPANSION OF IRANO-OMANI FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION OF MUTUAL BENEFIT IS "TO THE ADVANTAGE (SIC) OF FORTIFYING THE STABILITY AND SECURITY OF THIS SENSITIVE REGION (PERSIAN GULF) OF THE WORLD".

B) SECURITY OF PERSIAN GULF VITAL IMPORTANCE "TO US ALL".

IRAN HAS EXPLICITLY CONDEMNED INTERFERENCE IN THIS REGION BY OUTSIDE POWERS AND DENOUNCED SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES BECAUSE THEY MAY ENDANGER REGION'S SECURITY. FOR THIS REASON GOI HAS ANNOUNCED READINESS ASSIST ANY COUNTRY OF THE REGION IN OVERCOMING INTERNAL SUBVERSION SHOULD SUCH A REQUEST BE MADE. SECURITY REQUIRES BOTH MILITARY POWER AND SOCIAL AND EDUCATIONAL REFORMS SINCE SUBVERSION PRONE DEVELOP IN AREAS DEPRIVED OF SOCIAL JUSTICE.

C) IRAN'S INTEREST IN SECURITY AND STABILITY OF PERSIAN GULF STEMS FROM IT BEING ONLY SEA ROUTE TO INDIAN OCEAN AND AREAS BEYOND.

D) OMAN HAS VITAL INTERESTS WITH IRAN SINCE ITS STRATEGIC LOCATION AT MOUTH OF STRAIT OF HORMOZ - IRAN'S GATEWAY TO OTHER PARTS OF WORLD - "HAS CONTINUALLY LEFT US INTERESTED IN DESTINY OF PEOPLE LIVING IN THIS LAND". SUCH MUTUAL INTEREST HAD BECOME MORE IMPORTANT SINCE OIL AFFAIRS HAVE MADE ENTIRE REGION VERY SENSITIVE IN WORLD POLITICS. THIS DEMANDED THOROUGH ATTENTION, ALERTNESS AND VIGILANCE BY ALL STATES IN AREA.

E) IRAN FOLLOWING RESULTS OF OMAN'S DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS WITH DEEP INTEREST, AND HAS NOTED WITH SATISFACTION ITS IMPLEMENTATION OF PROGRAMS TO "ERASE PAST INJUSTICES". OMAN HAS ACQUIRED "WORTHY PLACE" IN THE INTERNATIONAL SCENE AS MEMBER OF UN AND OTHER GLOBAL AND REGIONAL BODIES.

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F) BANK MELLI IRAN AND IRAN INSURANCE COMPANY HAVE AGENCIES IN OMAN, AND IRAN WILL BEGIN REGULAR TEHRAN-MUSCAT FLIGHTS AS OF MARCH 21.

3. QABUS RESPONDED PRAISING IRAN'S PROGRESS UNDER THE SHAH'S LEADERSHIP AND CONFIRMED SHAH'S VIEW ON AREA'S SECURITY "WHICH IS ONE OF HIS ASPIRATIONS". HE THANKED IRAN FOR SENDING TANKS AND EQUIPMENT TO FIGHT "FOREIGN-PAID SABOTEURS AND MERCENARIES" IN RESPONSE TO

HIS PLEA. PRAISED VALOR OF IRANIAN TROOPS SERVING IN OMAN AND SAID HIS SOLE ASPIRATION WAS TO PLACE HIS COUNTRY AMONG PROGRESSIVE NATIONS OF THE WORLD. THIS, HE SAID, OBVIOUSLY REQUIRED COMPLETE SECURITY IN THE REGION.

4. COMMENT: VISIT OF QABUS IS FIRST TO TEHRAN OF AN OMANI HEAD OF STATE. SHAH'S REMARKS VIS-A-VIS SECURITY OF PERSIAN GULF CONSTITUTES ANOTHER REITERATION OF GOI'S POLICY TOWARDS THE PERSIAN GULF, INCLUDING THAT IT SHOULD BE KEPT FREE FROM OUTSIDE INTERFERENCE.

QABUS' APPARENTLY CAREFULLY WORDED ENDORSEMENT OF SHAH'S CALL FOR REGIONAL SECURITY (PARA 3) MAY BE FIRST FAVORABLE TANGIBLE RESPONSE TO SHAH'S URGING OF A REGIONAL SECURITY PROGRAM. (TEHRAN JOURNAL, MARCH 3, STATES "IN HIS REPLY THE SULTAN FULLY ENDORSED THE SHAHAN-SHAH'S CALL FOR ENSURING REGIONAL SECURITY"; WHEREAS, SEMI-OFFICIAL KAYHAN STATED "THE SULTAN CONFIRMED THE SHAHANSHAH'S VIEWS ON THIS AREA'S SECURITY SAYING THAT PEACE AND STABILITY WERE VITAL FOR PROGRESS").

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, MILITARY ASSISTANCE, CHIEF OF STATE VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 MAR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974TEHRAN01742
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: TEHRAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740369/aaaacmht.tel
Line Count: 134
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 JUN 2002 by rowelle0>; APPROVED <27 JUN 2002 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: OMAN MONARCH SULTAN QABUS DURING OFFICIAL VISIT AGREES WITH SHAH ON VITAL IMPORTANCE OF PERSIAN GULF SECURITY
TAGS: PFOR, MU, IR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005